DRONFIELD

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

HEALTH OF DRONFIELD

for 1921.

BY

O. H. HUDSON, M.R.C.S.

Medical Officer of Health.

DRONFIELD:
A. A. Ryder, Printer, Princess Buildings,
1922.

1921.

Summary of Report.

DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Area : 1046 acres.

Population : (census, 1911) 3943 ; (census, 1921) 4435.

Number of Occupied Houses : 1911, 944 ; 1921, 1009.

Rateable Value : £15,162 19s. 0d. Assessable Value : £12,923 11s. 0d.

General District Rate, 6s. 10d. in the £.

Poor Rate 10s. on Buildings and 5s. on Agricultural Land.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate, £51 10s. 0d.

Vital Statistics.

		Total	M.	F.	
Births	Legitimate ...		52	35	Birth Rate R.G. 20·23.
	Illegitimate ...		2	1	

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Child Birth, Nil.

Deaths of Infants (under 1 year of age per 1,000 births) Legitimate 77·7 ; Illegitimate, Nil ; Total, 77·7

Deaths from Measles, Nil.

,, Whooping Cough, Nil.

,, Diarrhœa, 2.

Death Rate, Total 14·16.

Water Supply :—

Source of Supply :—Moorland Water from Chesterfield Rural Sanitary Authority's Mains.

Scavenging and Refuse Disposal—

By Council's own Carts and Workmen.

Dronfield Urban District Council.

Annual Report of the Health of Dronfield for 1921.

To the Chairman and Members of the Dronfield Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in laying before you my Twenty-First Annual Report of the Health of the Dronfield Urban District.

The Population at the census of 1921 was 4,435. The number of occupied houses was 1,009 occupied by 1,062 separate Families. The increase of inhabitants over the census of 1911 being 492. The District Rate was 6s. 10d. in the £, and the amount of the Poor Law Relief during the year was £1,060 14s. 8d. The number of people per house being 4·39.

The Births registered belonging to the District were 90, viz :—54 males and 36 females, which is equal to an annual rate of 20.23. There were 3 Illegitmate Births, viz :—2 Males and 1 Female.

The Deaths registered belonging to the District were 63, which is equal to an annual rate of 14.16.

Infantile Deaths (Death under one year). There were 7 deaths of Infants under one year, viz :—6 males and 1 female, which is equal to an annual rate of 77·7 per 1,000 births. There were no deaths of illegitimate children. The causes of death were as follows :—Enteritis 2, Prematurity 3, Congenital Debility 1, Bronchitis 1.

The following cases of Notifiable Diseases during the year were viz :—

			Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria ...	...	..	29	24	Nil
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	13	13	Nil
Pneumonia ...	...	..	4	...	6
Enteric Fever...	...	...	1	...	1
Puerperal Fever	...	...	1	1	...
Tuberculosis—					
(a) Pulmonary ...	M.	5	7	Admitted to T. B. Dispensary	3 } 6
	F.	2			3 }
	Total ..	7			
(b) Non-Pulmonary	M.	2	3		1 } 2
	F.	1			1 }
	Total ..	3			

After receiving notification of any infectious disease, the house is at once visited by your Inspector, and enquiries made, and disinfectants supplied free of cost; after receiving notice from the Medical Attendant that the case has recovered, and is free from all further infection, or after the case has been removed to Hospital, the room, bedding, clothing, and all utensils used, are all thoroughly stoved with Formalin Vapour, and full instructions given to prevent further infection.

Diphtheria. There were 29 cases notified, they were spread over the year, 3 cases occuring in January, 4 in February, 5 in March, 4 in April, 2 in June, 7 in July, 3 in September and 1 in October; 24 cases were admitted to Hospital. There were no deaths. It is the practice of your Council to supply, free of cost, Antitoxin in all cases of Dephtheria

Scarlet Fever. There were 13 cases notified, and all were admitted to Hospital. There were no deaths. There were 6 cases in February, 3 in March, 3 in April and 1 in May.

Pneumonia. Four cases were notified, viz., 1 in February and 3 in December. There were 6 deaths registered, the ages at which death occurred is as follows, viz.: 10 to 15, 1; 30 to 35, 2; 35 to 45; 45 to 60, 2.

Enteric Fever. One case was notified in August. All enquiries were made as to its probable source, but were unsatisfactory, the man died at 47.

Puerperal Fever. On enquiry this case proved to be an abortion and was removed to Jessop's Hospital, Sheffield, and ended in a satisfactory recovery.

Tuberculosis (*Pulmonary.*) There were 7 fresh cases notified, viz :—5 males and 2 females, all these cases were treated at the Tuberculosis Dispensary and Sanatorium at Chesterfield. There were 6 deaths, viz :—3 males and 3 females. The ages at which death occurred was as follows : 10 to 15, 1 ; 20 to 35 1 ; 35 to 45, 2 ; 45 to 60, 2.

General Tubercular Disease. There were 3 cases notified viz :—Glands 4, Spine 1, Meningitis 1. The first two cases unfortunately died later in the year and were each returned as of Acute Phthisis. The latter case also died, and a case of Tubercular disease of Sacrum at Sheffield Royal Infirmary, which belonged to this district.

In all cases notified of Tuberculosis, Pulmonary or otherwise, the case is visited by the Tuberculosis Nurse, and is either treated at the T. B. Dispensary or sent to a Sanitorium, if the patient is resident at home the house is visited periodically and disinfected, and full instructions are given to prevent any infection.

Respiratory Diseases. There were 5 deaths from Bronchitis, which is equal to an annual rate of 1·11 per 1,000.

Malignant Disease. There were 7 deaths from Cancer, viz :—4 males and 3 females, which is equal to an annual rate of 1·5 per 1,000.

Sanitary circumstances of the District.

Water. The water supply of the whole District is supplied by the Chesterfield Rural Sanitary Authority's Mains, except one house which is supplied by a surplus well. The water is moorland water, and is plumbo-solvent in character, and is treated by percolating and alkaline filters to remove all peaty and acid matters.

Drainage and Sewerage. The outfall works are maintained in an efficient manner. The methods for disposal are by precipitation and percolating filters. The works have been inspected from time to time, and the affluent has been found satisfactory. Out of 1009 houses, there are only 52 which are not in the drainage area. These are all scattered houses on the outskirts of the District, are all served by sumps, which are regularly cleared out by servants of the Council. A sewer in Calleywhite Lane has been constructed during the year, and a much needed improvement carried out, and a new per-

colating filter at the Outfall Works is in course of erection and will be completed shortly.

Excrement Disposal. There are 1009 occupied houses served with the following conveniences, viz :—579 privy middens, 419 water closets, and 13 slop closets. It has been the policy of your Council in the past to convert the privy middens into water closets, but the conversions were stayed during the War owing to scarcity of labour and materials. It would add much to the health of the community if the whole of the privey middens were done away with. A many of the property owners are not in a financial condition to do any converting, and I am afraid there will not be much conversion without the help of the Council.

Scavenging. The population for which there is public scavenging is 4,435. The whole work is done by the servants of the District Council at an estimated cost of 13/6 per house inclusive of administrative charges. There are no details as to costs between prices and water closets. The middens are emptied regularly, in some cases every week, and in others at longer intervals according to circumstances. The work is done in the early mornings especially in the main thoroughfares.

Sanitary Inspections of the District. The number of visits made to premises were 213. The defects and nuisances discovered were 85, for which 80 informal notices and 97 statuary notices were served. There were 196 nuisances abated with or without notices. There were 30 notices served for conversion of privies into water closets and 3 notices for further closet accommodation.

Premises and occupations which are controlled by Bye-Laws in force in the District which were passed in August, 1907, are Slaughter-houses 7. Number of occupations—Butcher 1.

There is only one Lodging House in the District under the Bye-Laws passed by the Local Government Board, 1893. This house has been inspected 3 times. It has always been found in a clean condition.

Medical Inspections of School Buildings & Children. The school buildings and conveniences have been systematically inspected during the year. The medical inspection of school children is carried out by the County Authorities. In all cases of notifiable disease, when children are attending school, the head

teachers are notified, and children from infected houses are excluded until the house and clothing have all been disinfected by your Inspector, and all further danger of infection has been reduced to a minimum.

Food and Milk Supply. There are ten cowkeepers on the register owning approximately 54 cows. There are ten cowhouses which have been inspected 15 times. The cubic air space for each cow in the cowsheds is from 500 to 800 cubic feet.

The number of inspections of premises where food is prepared, stored or exposed for sale were 12.

There are no special arrangements made for meat inspection but the slaughter-houses are visited and inspected systematically and without warning, and have always been found in a sanitary condition.

Housing. There are 1009 houses in the District, out of this number 843 houses are for the working classes There are 7 houses in course of erection, none have been completed during the year. Your Council had a scheme for building 40 houses under the Municipal Housing Scheme. These were approved by the Ministry of Health, but unfortunately were not erected due to the excessive cost of tenders.

The number of houses inspected were 78. 13 of these were considered below standard, and should be closed when houses are provided to take their place. One house was considered as unfit and has been closed without Statutary Notice being served. 15 houses have been repaired and rendered fit by the owners without notice being served upon them. 26 Notices were served under the Public Health Acts for various defects in Roofs, Windows, Dampness, Eaves and Down Spouts, Etc., which nuisances have been abated.

No representations for Closing Orders under section 17 and 18 of the Housing and Town Planning Acts have been made.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

O. H. HUDSON.

Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector.

DRONFIELD URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Name of Inspector :—T. H. ATKINSON.

Area of District 1046 acres. Estimated No. of Houses 996.
New Houses erected 1921, NIL.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING—

Number of Houses inspected under Section 17	78
Number unfit of Habitation	1
Representations made to Local Authority as to Closing Orders ..	NIL.
Closing Orders made	NIL.
Number Repaired without Closing Order	7
Number Repaired after Closing Order made	NIL.
Number Closed	NIL.
Number Demolished	NIL.
Number Repaired Voluntary	15
Has a Scheme been Prepared?	NO.

DRAINAGE—	Informal Notices served by Nuisance Inspector	Legal Notices served by Local Authority	Nuisances abated
Defective Waste Pipe, Traps, Inlets & Drains	6		6
Drains Obstructed..	19		19
CLOSETS AND ASHPITS—			
Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits (Not for Conversion)	6	17	10
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s ..	2	28	10
Conversion of Privies into Pail Closets ..			6
Defective Water Closets	2		2
Provision of additional Water Closets ..	1	2	1
Provision of Portable Ashbins ..	4	30	95
Dirty Closets	2		2
OTHER DEFECTS—			
Paving of Courts and Yards	1		1
Roofs, Eaves-Sponts and Down Spouts ..	6	1	5
Sinks	3		3
Insufficient Ventilation	2		2
Windows	4		4
Dampness	8		4
Foul Condition of Houses	1		1
Offensive Accumulations		1	1
Pigsties		1	1
Smoke Nuisances	1		1
Urinals	1		1
Nuisances not specified above.. ..	11	17	21
Totals ..	80	97	196

	Number on Register	Inspections made	Notices served	Nuisances Abated with or without notice
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops ..	10	15	Nil	1
Bakehouses	4	4	Nil	Nil
Slaughterhouses	8	16	Nil	Nil
Offensive Trades	Nil			
Common Lodging-houses ..	1	3	1	1
Totals ..	23	38	1	2

Infected Rooms Disinfected, 63. Method—Formalin Vapour.
Samples submitted for Examination.—Water 1, Milk Nil, Sewage Effluents Nil.
Prosecutions—2 Notices served for conversion of 5 Privies to Water Closets, and the provisions of Ashbins, Orders made to abate Nuisance, but no order for Conversions
Food Seizures, Nil. Food Voluntarily Surrended, Nil.

(Signed) T. H ATKINSON.